

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

In the Official action mailed on January 10, 2005, the Office avers that the Amendment filed by Applicants was not fully responsive as it did not include a PTO-1449 form for the newly submitted references.

Applicants traverse. Applicants' appended two references to the Amendment previously filed, one a translation of JP 10-17694 and several pages from a book on synthetic polymer membranes. The Examiner had already cited JP 10-17694 in the Official Action of September 9, 2004, but included a machine translation which was difficult to read and understand. Applicants had this reference translated, but as the reference JP 10-17694 had already been cited, Applicants did not believe that it was required to recite this same reference. With regard to the book, in Applicants amendment it became clear that the concepts of dry-stretch and solvent extraction were in issue, and this reference defines these terms in a way that would be known to someone of ordinary skill in the battery arts. As this reference is merely supporting definitions, it was not felt that an IDS was required.

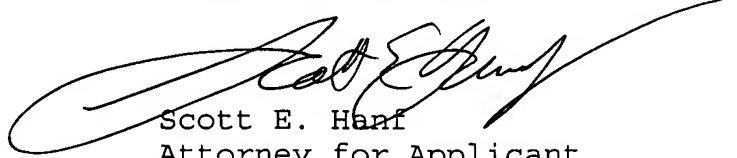
In order to be fully responsive to the Official Action of January 10, 2005, attached to this response are two PTO-1449 forms which contain both these references. For the reasons given above Applicants feel that no fees are due. However should the office determine that a fee, such as the IDS fee is due, if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-2447.

It is Applicants understanding that this response, and if needed attached IDS, would fully correct the Amendment filed November 22, 2004. Attached to this response are the IDS forms and additional copies of the references, only.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully requests an early Notice of Allowance in the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott E. Hanf', is written over the typed name.

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